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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,428	07/17/2003	Tien-Yuan Chien	4413-0115P	1101
2292	7590	03/23/2005	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			LEE, SEUNG H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2876	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/620,428	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CHIEN, TIEN-YUAN	
	<b>Examiner</b> Seung H. Lee	<b>Art Unit</b> 2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 6 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 4 and 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Priority*

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, 5, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito et al. (US 2003/0137095)(hereinafter referred to as 'Ito') in view of Applicant Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter referred to as 'AAPA').

Ito teaches a bill handling apparatus having a housing (1) wherein the housing comprises an insertion slot (2) for accepting bill formed in the front face or panel, the inserted bill is authenticated (S6) using a detector unit having bill detecting sensors (22a-22d) and ink-ingradient detecting sensors (23), a bill storage section (20) for receiving the bill from the detector unit wherein the bill storage section having a bill introduction portion (20a1) being slightly greater than the longitudinal dimension or length of the bill, the detector unit also comprising a upper transport path (4a) and a lower transport path (4b), the transport path (4) is defined between the upper path and the lower path wherein the transport path serves as an angled passage in which the

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transports path guides the inserted bill from the insertion slot to the storage section, a lever (9) serving as a burglarproof spring member located adjacent to the introduction portion (20a1) of the storage section for preventing inserted bill from being pulled out by a user and suspended from a base (i.e., a portion of the lever mounted to the housing) of the lever and obliquely extending in direction of the intruding portion (see Figs. 1, 7-9; paragraph 0018-0021, 0034, 0042).

However, Ito fails to particularly teach that the level has a plurality of curved pawls and the lever is made of elastic material.

AAPA teaches that a banknote receiver having housing (C) wherein the housing comprising a toothed safety plate (F) having a "L" shape or curved shape (see Fig. 5; page 1, line 10+ of specification).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the well known toothed shape of safety plate as taught by AAPA to the bill handling apparatus of the Ito in order to provide an improved security by prohibiting backward movement of the bill inserted therein.

Re claim 2: Ito teaches the level (9) is interposed transport path for preventing the bill from pulling out from the transport (see paragraph 0021 and 0034).

Re claim 5: Ito teaches the transport mechanism (6) having two belts transport mechanism wherein each belt transport mechanism comprises driving pulleys (6a) and driven pulleys (6b) in which the driven pulleys serve as a idle wheels, the introducing portion (20a1) also serves as an impression mechanism for keeping the bill in the

transport path during the transferring the bill to the storage section (paragraph 0019-0020).

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito as modified by AAPA as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kobayashi (JP 4,131,269).

The teachings of Ito/AAPA have been discussed above.

Although, Ito/AAPA teach the bill handling apparatus comprising the lever for prohibiting reverse movement of the bill inserted into the apparatus, they fails to particularly teach that the lever is made of elastic material.

However, Kobayashi teaches that a printing system having a conveyor system for transporting items such as paper wherein the conveyor system compress s pressing member (5) made of an elastic materials (see Figs. 1-4Abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Kobayashi to the teachings of Ito/AAPA in order to provide a improved bill handling system by easy releasing of the bill from the transport path into the storage section of the bill handling apparatus.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 4 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Although, the best prior art of record to Ito, AAPA, and Kobayashi teaches the bill handling apparatus having lever made of elastic material for prohibiting reverse movement of bill inserted into the apparatus, Ito, AAPA, and Kobayashi taken alone or in combination of other references, fail to specifically teach or fairly suggest that the housing comprising a chamber having a plurality of hook holes symmetrically disposed in two opposite side panels, the upper base comprising a plurality of spring hooks symmetrically disposed at two side and respectively hooked in the hook holes of the chamber, the storage cabin of the apparatus comprise an elongated locating hole extended along a top side of the insertion slot and the lever comprises an elongated base fasted to the elongated locating hole of the storage section or cabinet as set forth in the claims.

***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Watabe et al. (US 5,505,439) discloses a bill processor having a transport path for transferring the bill from the insertion slot into a storage area,

Mays et al. (US 5,641,157) discloses an apparatus for validating currency having storage area.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Seung H. Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-2401. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM- 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Seung H Lee  
Art Unit 2876  
March 15, 2005